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To Kurt Rausch/WASO/NPS@NPS
cc
bcc
Subject NPS National Clean Marina Initiative Guidance Available for
Commercial Service Operators

The NPS has posted its *National Clean Marina Initiative Guidance*. The guidance is available on InsideNPS at <http://inside.nps.gov/waso/custommenu.cfm?lv=4&prg=1092&id=6665>. Please forward this link to concession managers in your Parks in your which have marina and other water-related commercial service operations and encourage them to download and pass on the guidance to their commercial service operators.

This guidance is intended to help concessioners and parks manage marinas and other water-related operations in an environmentally sound manner. Using the guidance and participating in the initiative it describes is voluntary but is encouraged as a to help ensure compliance, pollution prevention, and management of our water-based operations in a manner that is sustainable and preserves Park natural resources.

Initiative Background and Details

Clean Marina programs have been developed in 22 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. However, many states, particularly those inland, do not have such a program. The NPS Clean Marina Initiative is designed to fill this gap. It is tailored after these successful state programs and outlines measures that commercial services who operate marinas, ferries, boat tours and other water-related operations can take to achieve compliance and implement sustainable best management practices. The guidance also provides practical tools such as sample signs and fact sheets that can be used. Even if there is a State program where the Park is located, the NPS guidance can still be a useful tool because it provides supplemental information specific to marina operations in national parks.

Most state Clean Marina programs have implemented a formal certification program that demonstrates that marina operations are operating as "clean marinas." At this time, the NPS Clean Marina Program does not have a similar certification process. Instead, commercial operators are encouraged to use the guidance and meet the criteria laid out in the *National Clean Marina Program Guidance* on their own and without any formal recognition, as good environmental stewards.

For More Information

Park concession management staff with questions about the NPS Clean Marina Initiative should contact Kurt Rausch in the Commercial Services Program at 202/513-7202 or Kurt_Rausch@nps.gov.

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